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## ALLIES IN DISPUTE OVER GERMAN GOLD

Belgium Insists She Be Paid Out of the First Billion Received.

AGREED TO AT SPA

France Now Opposes This, Saying Nothing Would Be Left for Her.

OPPOSES ARBITRATION

Mayors of Devastated Regions Are Demanding Funds for Reconstruction.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.  
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New York Herald Bureau, Paris, June 7.

With the Allies at last beginning to see the color of Germany's gold, opposition is developing here toward carrying out the priority agreement made at Spa whereby Belgium's claim is to be paid out of the first billion received. This is understood to be the reason for the visit here of Premier Jaspers of Belgium and it is likely that he will visit London in an endeavor to obtain British support before the matter comes up for discussion at a meeting of the Supreme Council.

Belgium is not willing to have her payment deferred until German bonds can be marketed, and if she persists in this, the French point out, it would mean not only that there would be nothing left for any one else from the first billion, but that the plan of paying the first quarterly installments, interests and amortization would be seriously sidetracked.

It is being suggested here that it was on such problems as this that the Reparations Commission proposed the appointment of some neutral, preferably Gustave Ador, formerly President of Switzerland, as arbitrator if unanimity cannot be secured in the commission itself. But French opposition to this plan undeniably is growing at the thought that the devastated regions in northeast France may have to wait another year before getting anything worth while from Germany.

The federation of the mayors of the departments of the Aisne, the Ardennes and the Marne to-day showed the attitude of the devastated regions when they expressed the hope to Louis Loucheur, Minister of Devastated Regions, that the situation would be bettered now that funds were coming in from Berlin and that it would be "possible to apply immediately large sums to reconstruction."

The Reparations Commission, however, is pointing out that only 200,000,000 marks gold have been received as yet, the balance being paper for which there is no market at present.

The commission, anticipating the difficulties Germany may have in making future payments, announced to-day that the costs of the armies of occupation must be paid quarterly with the installments of reparations annuities and the exportations of coal, this adding at least 2,000,000,000 marks per year to the enemy's burden.

This is considered to mean that the commission is inclined to keep as much as possible of the first 1,000,000,000 marks for emergencies, giving only a small portion directly to Belgium as a priority payment.

**\$50,000,000 PAID HERE ON REPARATIONS BILL**  
Sterling's Drop Laid to London Discounting Drafts.

Germany has completed the cash payment of \$50,000,000 of her reparations, the equivalent of almost 200,000,000 gold marks, her representatives depositing in the Federal Reserve Bank of New York yesterday approximately \$14,300,000. This supplements the \$35,700,000 paid a few days ago.

Wall Street bankers hear that British banking groups have discounted the entire \$200,000,000 of ninety day drafts in the London market and that the proceeds to the extent of \$80,000,000 have been remitted to New York through the medium of buying dollars and selling sterling. If this report is correct it would explain the mysterious drop in sterling to a point at which the gains of the entire year were lost. The completion of this remittance process would account also for yesterday's recovery in sterling of 4 1/2 cents to \$2.81 1/2, with a similar rise in other European currency values as expressed in terms of the dollar.

**COMMONS ADVANCES ANTI-DUMPING BILL**

Measure Provides for Five Year Customs Duty.

By the Associated Press.  
LONDON, June 7.—The House of Commons this evening by a vote of 112 to 52 passed the second reading of the bill for the protection of key industries and for the prevention of "dumping."

This legislation, known as the safeguarding of industries bill, provides for a five year customs duty of 33 1/3 per cent, ad valorem on the importation into the United Kingdom of optical glass, optical instruments, scientific glassware, porcelain and various instruments, magnetos, tungsten and its products, and synthetic organic chemicals, except dyes, stuffs, coloring matter and fine chemicals.

Under the bill a similar duty, in addition to the existing customs duty, would be required on any article which the Board of Trade might specify, which it was considered was being sold or offered for sale in the United Kingdom at a price below the cost of production there.

**DR. BUTLER TO OUTLINE ADDRESS TO PREMIERS**

Columbia Head Is Also to Lay Louvain Cornerstone.

Nicholas Murray Butler said yesterday that he would issue a statement before sailing on the Aquitania for England next Tuesday. It would, he said, be merely a suggestion of what he proposed saying before the Imperial Conference of Premiers of British Dominions and Colonies which he has been invited to address on June 22.

Dr. Butler is scheduled to lay the cornerstone of the new library of Louvain University some time after July 29. Mrs. Butler and their daughter, Sarah Schuyler Butler, will accompany him. Dr. Butler regretted that although it was going to cost \$500,000 to replace the Louvain library, destroyed by the Germans, only \$160,000 had been subscribed.

## PARIS TALKS OF ALLIANCE WITH BRITAIN FOR SAFETY

French Public Opinion Welcomes Idea, as It Would Give Complete Security From Aggression and Allow Reduction of Army and Navy.

By the Associated Press.

PARIS, June 7.—French official circles are taking an "unofficial" interest in the discussion of a Franco-British alliance by the newspapers. They are not yet ready to make any comment, however, further than to say that France always is ready to consider in the friendliest spirit any proposition looking toward a continuance and intensification of the good feeling between France and Great Britain, which has suffered latterly from the difficulties attending the discussion of questions in which the interests of the two countries have diverged.

The French press is somewhat divided as to whether the possibility is presenting itself for a closer accord with Great Britain. So far as it is possible to judge, public opinion welcomes the suggestion of an alliance which would give France final and complete security from the danger of aggression from the east and allow of a reduction in the army

and navy, which is provided for in the new army and navy programme. This reduction plan has not been carried out because of a feeling of apprehension still exists on account of the failure of Great Britain and the United States to ratify the agreements for military support of France negotiated by former President Wilson.

It is admitted in French official circles that if the question of France's security were satisfactorily solved many other questions would be easier to deal with. The impression prevails here that Great Britain now is quite as anxious as France to dispose of this question, which constantly was raised in connection with the British proposals to modify and soften the measures toward Germany.

As to settling the differences between the two countries concerning the Near East, France is declared to be willing to make concessions in order finally to enjoy the security that would enable an immense saving and reduce the military service to one year, thus releasing 200,000 young men for active work.

## UPPER SILESIA NOW NEAR BOLSHEVISM

Continued from First Page.

with hardly any prospect of such a fate being averted.

It is generally estimated that at present the activity of industry is only about 50 per cent. of what it was in normal times. One effect has been the cutting down of street car schedules in Berlin which are partly dependent on the Silesian mines, and the making of preparations for reducing the consumption of gas and electricity.

## FRENCH FAVOR WEDGE BETWEEN COMBATANTS

British Want Action to Disarm Both Sides in Silesia.

By the Associated Press.

OPPELN, June 7.—From sources considered reliable it is learned that Gen. Lerond, head of the International Commission, has issued verbal instructions to the British, Italian and French troops not to fire on Polish insurgents unless first attacked. The French here have proposed that all available troops be distributed between the German and Polish fighting lines, so as to allow the situation to adjust itself. The French contend that this procedure would result in the Germans and Poles finally agreeing upon one of the lines of demarcation already suggested.

British officials feel that this course would be futile and an evasion of the issue, and favor following a plan calling for an active effort for disarmament and the reestablishment of order in both the Polish and German districts.

The British impression is that Mr. Lloyd George wants an appreciable effort made to suppress the insurrection, and they feel equal to the task, but the French declare themselves unwilling to undertake it unless they have at least 50,000 men at their disposal. There is talk of possible Anglo-Italian cooperation without the French along these lines.

"Unless the Polish workmen get a square deal, Bolshevism is bound to sweep Upper Silesia," said Daniel

Deszczyński, the Polish Consul-General at Oppeln, who lived for a number of years in the United States.

Gen. von Hoefel, commander of German defence organizations, has bluntly declined to comply with the French ultimatum to withdraw his forces from the front between Krappitz and Koesel, where the Poles have been driven back for several miles. He promised, however, to prevent a further advance by the Germans "unless provoked by the Poles."

It has been learned by allied officials here that from 2,000 to 4,000 Germans who were liberated in the territory taken over by the defence organizations volunteered to serve with the Germans and that each man produced a weapon with which to fight against the Poles.

## ULTIMATUM ON SILESIA PROTESTED BY MAYER

Action Deemed Recognition of Gen. von Hoefel.

By the Associated Press.

PARIS, June 7.—Dr. Wilhelm Mayer, the German Ambassador, called at the French Foreign Office to-day to protest in the name of his Government against the ultimatum delivered to Gen. von Hoefel, head of the German defence troops in Upper Silesia, by the International Commission there, demanding that the German troops be withdrawn.

Foreign Office officials remarked that this action on the part of the German Government was tantamount to recognition by it of Gen. von Hoefel. Dr. Mayer was asked by the officials if he desired it to be understood that his Government approved Gen. von Hoefel.

The British Government, according to information received here to-day, has notified the German Government that the allied forces in Upper Silesia will soon be sufficient in number to suppress the disorders in that region.

The German proposals to relieve the British troops, therefore, the notification said, were unnecessary and would tend to augment, rather than to diminish, the difficulties of the present situation.

A Berlin despatch of May 6 quoted the then German Chancellor, Dr. Fehrenbach, as asserting that the German Government had requested the Allies to reinforce the troops in Silesia so that the revolt there might be suppressed and order restored. Germany was willing, he added, to help bring about normal conditions in the disturbed area.

## ANOTHER BIG STRIKE THREATENS BRITAIN

Government Decides to End Control of Agriculture, Opening New Crisis.

By the Associated Press.

LONDON, June 7.—A further industrial dispute may be added to the existing controversies in the coal, cotton and engineering trades (by which some 2,000,000 men are out of work) through the decision of the Government to cease control of agriculture.

This decision is due to the financial crisis through which the country is passing. It has already been seen by the Government that the protracted depression in trade, which has been intensified by the continued suspension of work in the coal fields, involving the Government in heavy expenditures for the maintenance of unemployed, and the heavy deficit of the railways, which still are under Government control, will completely upset all budget estimates. Hence it seems that the Government is hastening to do away with all control which involves financial liability.

The cessation of control of agriculture, which will require the assent of Parliament, would mean the abolition of guaranteed prices for wheat and oats and of the powers possessed by the County Councils to enforce proper cultivation. It would also result in doing away with the Agricultural Wages Board which fixed minimum wages, varying from 48 to 50 shillings weekly for agricultural laborers.

This would mean that farmers would be permitted to resume their freedom from legal restrictions in the payment of wages, and it is considered certain that they would reduce the scale of wages now in force, which probably would lead

to a series of serious wage disputes affecting more than 400,000 persons.

Conferences are continuing at the Ministry of Labor in an endeavor to bring about a settlement of the wage dispute in the cotton manufacturing and engineering trades.

The negotiations seeking to end the coal strike are proceeding without the assistance of Government officials. The miners' executive committee has called a conference of delegates for Friday, to propose a resort to the ballot by members of the union on the latest proposals of the mine owners. The more conciliatory disposition shown by both sides to the dispute has improved the hopes for an early settlement of the trouble. Both parties admitted that the real matters in dispute had hardly been reached as yet. At the same time they expressed the opinion that the longer the conference lasted the more hopeful were the prospects of a settlement.

## ANTI-WASTE CANDIDATE RETURNED IN ENGLAND

Lloyd George's Coalition Loses Another Bye Election.

LONDON, June 7.—The Lloyd George Coalition Government suffered another electoral defeat to-day in the bye election in the St. George's Division of Westminster to replace Walter Hume Long, who recently retired as First Lord of the Admiralty. The "anti-waste" independent candidate, James Monteth Erskine, was returned with a vote of 7,244; the Coalition candidate, Sir H. M. Jessel, received 5,356 votes.

An influential section of the British press, notably newspapers owned by Lord Northcliffe and his brother, Lord Rothermere, have been making savage attacks on the Government for its extravagant and wasteful methods, which they claim are saddling Great Britain with an enormous debt. These newspapers have appealed to the voters in bye elections to vote for anti-waste candidates and against Coalition nominees.

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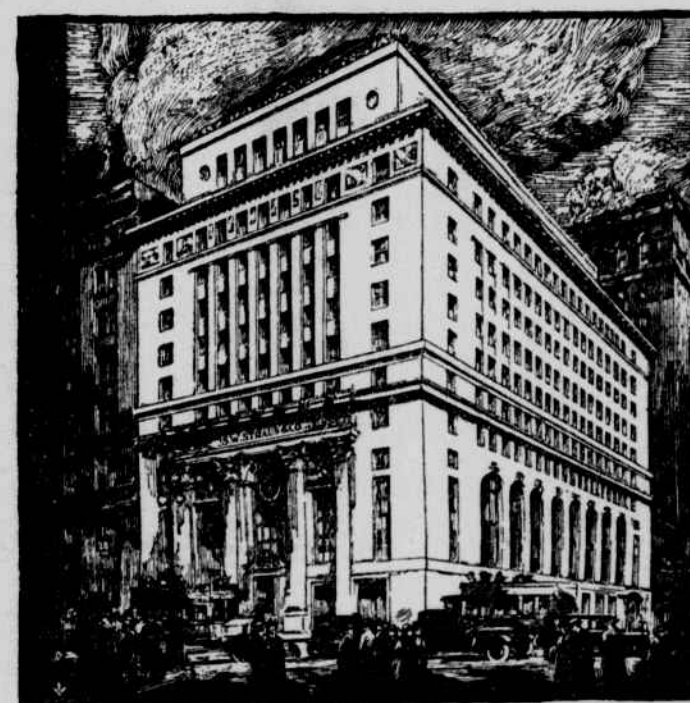
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